PTO/SB/30 (08-00) Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

perwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a

REQUEST **FOR**

CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

it displays a valid OMB control number.
09/842,315
April 26, 2001
Taketomi ASAMI et al.
2813
D. Blum
0756-2306

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

a. Previously submitted	
 Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on March 3, 2004. (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). 	
ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on	Ì
iii. Other	
b. Enclosed	
i. Amendment/Reply	
ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)	- 1
iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)	
iv. D Other	
2. Miscellaneous	
a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(I) required)	
b. Other <u>Petition for Extension of Time</u>	
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.	
a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account	
No	
i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)	
ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)	
iii. Other	
b. Check in the amount of \$1080.00 enclosed	
c. Dayment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)	
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED	
Name (Print/Type) Eric J. Robinson Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 38,285	
Signature Date 4-5-04	
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class main an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U Patent and Trademark Office on:	1 S.
Name (Print/Type)	
Signature adulm Starger Date 4-5-04	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent tot he Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS: SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.